23 November 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, RQM/OIS
Director of Training

SUBJECT: Human Relations Area Files

1. Representatives of both the Department of Defense and the Department of the Army have recently expressed a desire to make their heavy investment in the Human Relations Area Files (HRAF) pay off as much as possible to other Government agencies that might have a use for them.

2. When we canvassed the Agency two years ago to determine whether or not CIA's contract with the HRAF should be renewed, the only positive interest expressed in the Files was by representatives of DDP and OTR. That interest was not sufficient to warrant our continuing the contract, however.

3. Since we now have an opportunity to make use of the Files without cost, your comments on the following items on which Defense and Army have asked for an opinion would enhance the value of HRAF to the Agency:

    a. How can the usefulness of the Files be increased?

    b. Is there a need for revision of the basic outline to suit the purposes of the psychological warfare operator?

    c. What additional categories should be recommended for consideration and possible inclusion in the File?

d. How can operational personnel best make use of the information and research included in the Files? What methods can be used to test out alternative ways operational personnel can utilize the kind of knowledge produced?

e. Is it desirable to have a group of highly qualified personnel in Washington to insure maximum utilization of the Files?

f. Is it advisable to establish a temporary group to review the Files and make recommendations as to the best methods of utilizing them?

4. The Agency's copy of the Files is housed in Branch 2 of the Library (Alcott Hall).

5. It would be appreciated if we could have your comments by 31 December.

> CLAUDE E. HAWLEY
> Office of the Special Assistant
> to the Director
> for Planning and Coordination

CEH:aml (23 November 1954)
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